

REMARKS

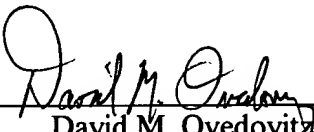
In view of the above-amendments and the following remarks, examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

The specification and abstract have been reviewed and revised to make a number of editorial revisions. Due to the number of changes involved, a substitute specification and abstract have been prepared and are submitted herewith. No new matter has been added. Enclosed is a marked-up copy of the original specification and abstract labeled "**Version with Markings to Show Changes Made**" indicating the same changes incorporated into the substitute specification and abstract.

Original claims 1-9 have been cancelled and are replaced with new claims 10-45 for examination. It is submitted that new claims 10-45 do not add new matter to the application. As a result, examination of these claims on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Katsuya SHIMOMURA et al.

By 
David M. Ovedovitz
Registration No. 45/336
Attorney for Applicants

DMO/jmj
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
December 13, 2001